B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which allowance is requested. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers for a manufacturing order, said method comprising the steps of:

facilitating, by at least one broker server, user selection of a customized manufacturing order for a product to be manufactured, after placement of said customized manufacturing order, by a particular local manufacturer selected by said user from among a plurality of local manufacturers, wherein said plurality of local manufacturers locally distribute manufactured products to said user without shipping said manufactured products;

dividing, by said broker server, said customized manufacturing order for said user into a plurality of manufacturable parts;

submitting, by said broker server, a local bid request for said manufacturing order to said plurality of local manufacturers;

receiving, by said broker server, at least one local bid for said manufacturing order from at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers specifying, wherein said at least one local bid specifies a selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required [[for]] to be manufactured by a remote manufacturer for said at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers to produce[[ing]] said customized manufacturing order; [[and]]

submitting, by said broker server, a remote bid request to a plurality of remote manufacturers for said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts as requested in said at least one local bids;

responsive to said broker server receiving at least one remote bid for at least one of said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts, compiling, by said broker

server, said at least one local bid and said at least one remote bid into a plurality of display options to enable said user to select said particular local manufacturer and to select at least one particular remote manufacturer from among said plurality of remote manufacturers to provide said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer; and

responsive to said broker server receiving a selection by said user of said particular local manufacturer and said at least one particular remote manufacturer, controlling, by said broker server, placement of said customized manufacturing order with said particular local manufacturer and placement of at least one separate order with said at least one particular remote manufacturer for said selection from among said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer to produce said customized manufacturing order.

2.   (Original) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

submitting said local bid request and said remote bid request from a broker server communicatively connected through a network to a plurality of manufacturer systems.

3.   (Canceled).

4.   (Previously Presented) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

in response to receiving a design request from a user, transmitting a plurality of available products to said user;

in response to receiving a product selection from among said plurality of available products, transmitting a plurality of available attributes to said user;

in response to receiving an attribute selection from among said plurality of available attributes, transmitting a plurality of available variables to said user; and

in response to a receiving a variable selection from among said plurality of available variables, rendering a graphical representation of said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection, said attribute selection and said variable selection.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 4, said method further comprising the step of:

calculating a cost estimate for said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection, said attribute selection and said variable selection.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

analyzing said customized manufacturing order for integrity; and

in response to finding integrity flaws in said customized manufacturing order, providing said user with suggestions for adjusting said customized manufacturing order.

7.   (Canceled).

8.   (Original) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

receiving a selection from said user from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids;

transferring an order request for said manufacturing order according to said selection from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids.

9.   (Original) The method for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 8, said method further comprising the step of:

completing a financial settlement from said user for said order request.

10.   (Currently Amended) A system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers for a manufacturing order, said system comprising:

a server system communicatively connected via a network to a plurality of local manufacturers and a plurality of remote manufacturers;

said server system further comprising:

means for facilitating user selection of a customized manufacturing order for a product to be manufactured, after placement of said customized manufacturing order, by a particular local manufacturer selected by said user from among said plurality of local manufacturers, wherein said plurality of local manufacturers locally distribute manufactured products to said user without shipping said manufactured products;

means for dividing said customized manufacturing order for said user into a plurality of manufacturable parts;

means for submitting a local bid request from said server system for said manufacturing order to said plurality of local manufacturers; and

means for receiving at least one local bid for said manufacturing order from at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers specifying, wherein said at least one local bid specifies a selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required [[for]] to be manufactured by a remote manufacturer for said at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers to produce[[ing]] said customized manufacturing order;

means for submitting a remote bid request from said server system to a plurality of remote manufacturers for said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts as requested in said at least one local bids, in response to receiving a plurality of local bids for said manufacturing order at said server system.

means, responsive to said broker server receiving at least one remote bid for at least one of said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts, for compiling said at least one local bid and said at least one remote bid into a plurality of display options to enable said user to select said particular local manufacturer and to select at least one particular remote manufacturer from among said plurality of remote manufacturers to provide said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer; and

means, responsive to said broker server receiving a selection by said user of said particular local manufacturer and said at least one particular remote manufacturer, for controlling placement of said customized manufacturing order with said particular local manufacturer and placement of at least one separate order with said at least one particular remote manufacturer for said selection from among said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer to produce said customized manufacturing order.

11.   (Canceled).

12.   (Previously Presented) The system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 10, said system further comprising:

means for transmitting a plurality of available products to said user from said server system, in response to receiving a design request from a user;

means for transmitting a plurality of available attributes to said user from said server system, in response to receiving a product selection from among said plurality of available products;

means for transmitting a plurality of available variables to said user from said server system, in response to receiving an attribute selection from among said plurality of available attributes; and

means for rendering a graphical representation of said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection from said server system, said attribute selection and said variable selection, in response to a receiving a variable selection from among said plurality of available variables.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for calculating a cost estimate for said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection, said attribute selection and said variable selection.

14.   (Previously Presented) The system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 10, said system further comprising:

means for analyzing said customized manufacturing order for integrity; and

means for providing said user with suggestions for adjusting said customized manufacturing order, in response to finding integrity flaws in said personalized design.

15.   (Canceled).

16.   (Original) The system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 10, said system further comprising:

means for receiving a selection from said user from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids at said server system;

means for transferring an order request from said server system for said manufacturing order according to said selection from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids.

17.   (Original) The system for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 16, said system further comprising:

means for completing a financial settlement from said user for said order request.

18.   (Currently Amended) A program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers for a manufacturing order, residing on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

means for facilitating user selection of a customized manufacturing order for a product to be manufactured, after placement of said customized manufacturing order, by a particular local manufacturer selected by said user from among a plurality of local manufacturers, wherein said plurality of local manufacturers locally distribute manufactured products to said user without shipping said manufactured products;

means for dividing said customized manufacturing order for said user into a plurality of manufacturable parts;

means for transmitting a local bid request for said manufacturing order to said plurality of local manufacturers;

means for receiving at least one local bid for said manufacturing order from at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers specifying, ~~wherein said at least one local bid specifies~~ a selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required [[for]] to be manufactured by a remote manufacturer for said at least one of said plurality of local manufacturers to produce[[ing]] said customized manufacturing order; [[and]]

means for transmitting a remote bid request to a plurality of remote manufacturers for said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts as requested in said at least one local bids.

means, responsive to said broker server receiving at least one remote bid for at

least one of said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts, for compiling said at least one local bid and said at least one remote bid into a plurality of display options to enable said user to select said particular local manufacturer and to select at least one particular remote manufacturer from among said plurality of remote manufacturers to provide said selection of said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer; and

means, responsive to said broker server receiving a selection by said user of said particular local manufacturer and said at least one particular remote manufacturer, for controlling placement of said customized manufacturing order with said particular local manufacturer and placement of at least one separate order with said at least one particular remote manufacturer for said selection from among said plurality of manufacturable parts required by said particular local manufacturer to produce said customized manufacturing order.

19.   (Canceled).

20.   (Previously Presented) The program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 18, said program further comprising:

means for transmitting a plurality of available products to said user, in response to receiving a design request from a user;

means for transmitting a plurality of available attributes to said user, in response to receiving a product selection from among said plurality of available products;

means for transmitting a plurality of available variables to said user, in response to receiving an attribute selection from among said plurality of available attributes; and

means for generating a graphical representation of said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection, said attribute selection and said variable selection, in response to a receiving a variable selection from among said plurality of available variables.

21.   (Previously Presented) The program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 20, said program further comprising:

means for calculating a cost estimate for said customized manufacturing order according to said product selection, said attribute selection and said variable selection.

22.   (Previously Presented) The program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 18, said program further comprising:

means for analyzing said customized manufacturing order for integrity; and

means for notifying said user with suggestions for adjusting said customized manufacturing order, in response to finding integrity flaws in said personalized design.

23.   (Canceled).

24.   (Original) The program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 18, said program further comprising:

means for receiving a selection from said user from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids;

means for transmitting an order request for said manufacturing order according to said selection from among said plurality of local bids and said plurality of remote bids.

25.   (Original) The program for coordinating a plurality of local and remote manufacturers according to claim 24, said program further comprising:

means for completing a financial settlement from said user for said order request.

Claims 26-35.   (Canceled).